



578
October
2013

HF Happenings



South African Radio League * Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga
Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union since 1925
www.sarl.org.za www.iau.org www.iau-r1.org

Thank You

The Voortrekkers and Scouts South Africa wish to thank the SARL as well as every radio amateur who assisted them in making CQ Hou Koers and JOTA a success. It gives young people and the general public good exposure to amateur radio. We are also thankful for every radio amateur who took the time to have a QSO with the young people.

Thank you for being important in the life of a young person.



Have YOU done anything today to Promote Amateur Radio?

October

1 - Schools open
3 - SARL 80 metre QSO Party
3 to 6 - Hobby-X, Midrand
5 - Spring QRP Contest
5 and 6 - RSGB 21/28 MHz Contest
12 and 13 - AWA AM and SSB Contest
16 - Bosses Day
17 - Radio Amateur Examination
19 - CQ Hou Koers
19 and 20 - Jamboree-on-the-Air
26 and 27 - CQ WW DX Phone Contest

November

2 - RaDAR Contest
10 - Remembrance Sunday; PEARS HF Contest
11 - Armistice Day
16 and 17 - SARL National Field Day
23 and 24 - CQ WW DX CW Contest

RaDAR Contest

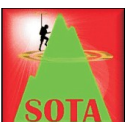
The RaDAR contest is an event aimed at promoting the use of Rapidly Deployable Amateur Radio stations. This contest is for all licensed radio amateurs. A choice is made prior to the contest to participate in one of the defined categories. The points system is so structured as to encourage portable operation especially moveable stations.

Date and Time. The first Saturday of November - 2 November 2013, starting at 14:00 UTC and ending at 18:00 UTC (16:00 to 20:00 CAT) - 4 hours = Approximately 2 during the day and 2 at night.

Bands and Modes. All amateur bands, besides the WARC bands, are allowed including cross band contacts via amateur radio satellites. Modes - CW, SSB, AM, FM or any digital mode. QSOs via terrestrial repeaters will NOT be allowed.

Exchange. Call sign, Name, RS(T) Report, QTH and grid locator. Note the grid locator can change as RaDAR operators are allowed to move position at any time. The grid locator of six digits is acceptable but should preferably be accurate to 10 digits. If the grid locator is not known, then some other information that could describe the location, e.g. Mabula Lodge, 40 km west of Warmbaths

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Current Summits-on-the-Air (SOTA) activities are announced at www.sotawatch.org
And more SOTA information can be found at www.sota.org.uk



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Suggested HF Calling frequencies

Band	CW	Phone	Digital	Notes
160 m	1 836 kHz	1 845 kHz	Refer to GR 15	ZS/ZR
80 m	3 560 kHz	3 690 kHz	Refer to GR 15	ZS/ZR/ZU
40 m	7 030 kHz	7 090 kHz	Refer to GR 15	ZS/ZR/ZU
20 m	14 080 kHz	14 240 kHz	Refer to GR 15	ZS/ZR
15 m	21 080 kHz	21 350 kHz	Refer to GR 15	ZS/ZR
10 m	28 060 kHz	28 360 kHz	Refer to GR 15	ZS/ZR/ZU

Recommended digital modes frequencies. Refer to the SARL Contest Manual, General Rule 15.

Scoring. 1 point per QSO. 1 QSO per mode, per band / satellite, per call sign.

Categories and multipliers. The following multipliers are applicable to determine the final score.

a. Category:

Fixed RaDAR station - at home / portable away from home

Moving RaDAR station - on foot / in a car, on a motorcycle or bicycle

b. Category multiplier:

X 1 - RaDAR Fixed station (at home or in another building)

X 2 - RaDAR Field station (portable away from home)

X 3 - Moving RaDAR station, car / motorcycle / bicycle - minimum 5 km

X 4 - Moving RaDAR station, on foot - minimum 1 km

Note: Moving RaDAR stations can move at any time but are required to move to the next destination after five contacts have been made from the present location. The move needs to cover the required distance before further contacts are allowed to be made.

c. Power multiplier: The power multiplier that applies is determined by the highest power output of any of the transmitters used during the contest. 5 watts or less the power multiplier is six (6). 6 to 50 watts, the power multiplier is four (4). 51 watts or greater, the power multiplier is two (2).

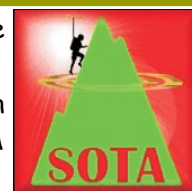
Bonus points (All categories). 5 Points (equivalent to five QSOs) for a minimum of one satellite or any digital mode QSO involving a computer. (For clarity: thereafter 1 point per Satellite / Digital modes QSO)

Log Sheets. The SARL RaDAR Contest manager - Eddie ZS6BNE. E-mail entries to edleigh-ton@gmail.com. The closing date for logs is 18 November 2013. **Note:** A photo of the station (JPG format) MUST accompany every log entry.

SOTA Achievements

Congratulations to Sid Tyler, ZS5AYC, and Lucas Swart, ZS6ACT, for gaining more than 100 SOTA points as an Activators, both from the Secunda Radio Club.

Two months ago, Lucas became the first radioamateur in South Africa to gain more than 100 SOTA points as an Activator. Now Sid has also obtained 100 SOTA points.



African DX

Ceuta and Melilla, ED9 - Cancelled! A group of operators that were expected to be active as ED9Z as a Multi-Op from Ceuta have announced that they have cancelled their CQ WW DX SSB Contest operation due to some serious personal issues.

Cote d' Ivoire, TU. Operators Chris, F4WBN (ex-TLOA), Paul, F6EXV and Jan, DJ8NK will be active as TU5AX, TU5XV and TU5NK, respectively, for a solidarity radio operation which will take place between 17 and 30 November. Activity will be on SSB, CW and RTTY, with operations on 160 - 6 meters (including 60 m). QSL via their home call signs, by the Bureau, direct or the OQRS on Clublog. Jan informs, "The 3 operators will support the club station TU2CI and will leave equipment behind (radios and antennas), install it and train the local

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operators to use it, in order to revive the Abidjan radio club, and assist some local hams who have strongly suffered from the civil war that hit the country sometime ago."

Senegal, 6V. Vladimir "Vlad", RK4FF, will once again be active as 6V7S from Le Calao in Ngaparou between 22 October and 27 November. Activity will probably be on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via RK4FF. Log is available on ClubLog. Check out QRZ.com for some pictures.

African Islands



Mauritius, 3B8. Serge, UU5WW, will be active as 3B8/UU5WW from Mauritius Island between 17 and 30 November. Activity will be holiday style, mostly CW on the HF bands and an entry in the CQ WW DX CW Contest (23 and 24 November). QSL via K2PF (OQRS preferred). A Web site with more details will be available soon.

Cape Verde, D4. John, G4IRN, will be active as D44TWQ from Boa Vista, Cape Verde (AF-086), between 5 and 12 November. Activity will be holiday style (primarily a windsurfing holiday) on the 30/17/12 meters and on CW only using a K2 and KPA500 into dipoles. QSL via his home call sign, by the Bureau and direct. An OQRS will be available on ClubLog and he will use LoTW. For more details, see: <http://g4irn.com/cap-verde-2013>

Canary Islands, EF8. Juan, EA8RM, will be active as EF8U from the Las Palmas Contest station during the CQ WW DX SSB (26 and 27 October) and the CQ WW DX CW Contests (26 and 27 November) as a Single-Op/All-Band entry. QSL via LoTW.

Canary Islands, ED8. Manuel, EA8DO, will be active as ED8W during the CQ WW DX SSB Contest (26 and 27 October) Single-Op/Single-Band (20 m)/High-Power entry. QSL via EA8DO.

Amsterdam Island, FT5Z. Stan, SQ8X, posted the following on 17 October, on the FT5ZM Web page <http://www.amsterdamdx.org> [edited]: "Since the early planning days of this DXpedition, we have been accumulating and storing equipment at our staging site in Atlanta, Georgia. On 15 October, our packing and organizing was completed, equipment was placed on pallets, loaded into our sea container, and began its journey to New Zealand where it will be loaded aboard our ship." The photos will tell the story at: <http://www.amsterdamdx.org/our-equipment-has-been-shipped>

2013 Friedrichshafen Ham Radio Lectures

Press Release (Friedrichshafen, Germany). Wolf Harranth, OE1WHC, from the Amateur Radio Section of ORF (Austrian Broadcasting Corporation) and the Documentary Archives Radio Communications/QSL Collection, has informed that the following 2013 Friedrichshafen Ham Radio Lectures (listed below) are available at <http://www.dokufunk.org/talk>

The Ham Radio Lectures (Powerpoint slides with synchronized audio) are:

- * Martti Laine, OH2BH: Changing Times in DX Hunt (Keynote speech)
- * Veijo Kontas, OH6KN and Juho Juopperi, OH8GLV: Technology Innovations in Helping DXers
- * Tom Perera, W1TP: The ENIGMA and other Historic Cipher Machines. Introduction to the Enigma.
- * John Alexander, G7GCT: Small Cipher Machines
- * Martin Steyer, DK7ZB: Development of Broadcasting in Germany 1923 - 2013 (In German)
- * Chris Ducking, G3SVL: 100 Years of the RSGB and its International Partners

Contesting Information

For iPad users, Kazu JK3GAD-MØCFW has created free iPad apps called "Contest Log Visualizer" <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/contest-log-visualizer/id709465260?mt=8> which download public logs from CQ WW, CQ WPX and the WRTC2014 test operations, then show you on the map where (s)he worked in specific clock

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hour in specific band. This is ideal for checking and learning about past propagation when operating from an unfamiliar place.

Jim, AD1C reports that in previous versions of the CTY files used by most contest logging programs, "I have been using USA state boundaries to determine the CQ and ITU zones. CQ zones break nicely along state boundaries, but ITU zones do not. For example, the eastern parts of Montana, Utah and Arizona straddle two ITU zones (both 6 and 7). In the most recent country file release, I changed the default ITU zone for a few of these states, based on where I think the greater population lives. And of course, this caused some new errors to appear. To correct them, I enhanced the program to reference a ZIP code database that contains latitude/longitude for each ZIP code." ITU zones are primarily used in the IARU HF Championship.

A new set of Super Check Partial (SCP) files <http://www.supercheckpartial.com/> is now available - download these files to be sure you are fully up to date before CQ World Wide. RTTY Super Check Partial updates will cease starting with the first release in early 2014, says Bob WA1Z. With RTTY contesting becoming a regular on the contest circuit, there is so much in common with the usual SCP files that having a separate set of calls was no longer useful. He will keep links to the files in the Release History page for the foreseeable future in case anyone wants them for some reason. A note to logging software developers who support downloads from the SCP site: the last version of the mastertty.dta and mastertty.scp files will remain accessible via the same URL.

Operating Tip

Keep moving - when you are search-and-pouncing your way through a band, the temptation to stay in a pileup to work a needed station. However, you need to keep moving if you don't work them in a couple of calls. Propagation might not favour you, they may have too many callers, whatever the cause keep the dial spinning as you can always come back later. Often, the pileup is significantly smaller after a few minutes. (Thanks, Chuck

Technical Web Site of the Week

Ellen, W1YL, noticed this interesting new material called Sugru <http://sugru.com/about>. It's not a beverage sweetener! Sugru is a self-curing rubber-like material that seems to have a lot of uses in the workshop and maybe in support of water- or weather proofing.

The World (Wide) Series

Baseball's annual "Fall Classic" kicks off tonight (to mix a sports metaphor) as the Cardinals and the Red Sox mix it up for the fourth time in baseball's long and storied history. There will be thrills, chills, and spills galore and those of us rooting for or against will be paying close attention with many a friendly wager made on the outcome. Practitioners of radiosport have the same anticipation for the really big contests, the ones that offer non-stop QSO action from the starting tick of the 24-hour clock to the final minute more than a day later.

While CQ World Wide draws more than 30,000 participants in a good year and is one of the largest sporting events on the planet that no one seems to have ever heard of, let me say right up front that there is room for almost anyone in even the biggest contests. There are always challenges, even to the bigger stations and experienced operators, but these challenges are what we make of them. Don't be afraid to jump in and test the waters!

Here is the ham radio equivalent of the World Series - our own seven-game Fall Classic that begins on the last full weekend in October and ends weeks later on the second full weekend in December. In North America, the contests generally start some time on Friday afternoon (Sweepstakes starts on Saturday) and end Sunday afternoon (or Sunday evening for Sweepstakes). Some of these are 48 (or 42 hours) while the Sweepstakes format is 24 hours out of the overall 30 - with off times of *at least* 30 consecutive clock minutes without a QSO.

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- CQ World Wide Phone - Oct 26 at 0000 UTC to Oct 27 at 2359 UTC
- ARRL Sweepstakes CW - Nov 2 at 2100 UTC to Nov 4 at 0300 UTC
- Worked All Europe RTTY - Nov 9 at 0000 UTC to Nov 10 at 2359 UTC
- ARRL Sweepstakes Phone - Nov 16 at 2100 UTC to Nov 18 at 0300 UTC
- CQ World Wide CW - Nov 23 at 0000 UTC to Nov 24 at 2359 UTC
- ARRL 160 Meter - Dec 6 at 2200 UTC to Dec 8 at 1600 UTC
- ARRL 10 Meter - Dec 14 at 0000 UTC to Dec 15 at 2359 UTC

At the end of this smorgasbord, your log will be stuffed *full* of contest QSOs with stations across town and around the world, trust me!

Finally, or maybe first, I urge you to read the rules before jumping in. It's no fun to lose contact credit because you didn't log the right exchange or forgot to take enough off time. There are lots of helpful online guides to almost every contest -- just do an Internet search for the contest name and "tutorial" to get plenty of information. Don't forget to just listen, listen, listen to pick up on how the game is played, what information is exchanged, and the general rhythm of it all. And a multi-operator effort with some friends is a great way to get a little coaching and share the operating time, too.

If you are new to HF or contesting and get to experience a really good opening or maybe you break that pileup in one call, you'll find the experience is a lasting memory, remembering the winners from contests of years past just like the World Series winners. Bad calls have a whole different meaning in radiosport but we remember them, too! So get in there, take some swings, and get your uniform dirty. You will soon find your batting average on the rise and the grounders finding their way into the pocket of your glove. Play ball!

73, Ward NØAX

Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 21 to 28 October 2013

RSGB 80 m Club Sprint, SSB

19:00 - 20:00 UTC 24 October

Mode: SSB

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: 100 W; 10 W

Exchange: other station's call, your call, serial no and your name

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 31 October 2013

Upload log at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2013/rsprint.shtml>

NCCC Sprint

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 25 October

Mode: (see rules)

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: (see rules)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 27 October 2013

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

CQ Worldwide DX SSB Contest

00:00 UTC 26 October to 24:00 UTC 27 October

Mode: SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP, low or high - option: classic or rookie; Single Op Single Band - QRP, low or high; Single Op Assisted All Band - QRP, low or high; Single Op Assisted Single Band - QRP, low or high; Multi-Single; Multi-Two; Multi-Multi

Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: RS and CQ Zone No

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 0 points per QSO with same country (counts as mult); 1 point per QSO with different country same continent; 2 points per QSO with different country same continent (NA); 3 points per QSO with different continent

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Be surprised by the World of Amateur Radio

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Multipliers: Each CQ zone once per band;
each country once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total mults

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 1 November 2013

E-mail logs to: ssb@cqww.com

Web-to-Cabrillo form: http://www.b4h.net/cabforms/cqwwssb_cab.php

Mail logs to: Paper Logs, Box 481, New Carlisle, OH 45344, USA

Find rules at: <http://www.cqww.com/rules.htm>

Next weeks contests

NCCC Sprint, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 1 November

IPARC CW Contest, 06:00 - 10:00 UTC 2 November 14:00 - 18:00 UTC 2 November

Ukrainian DX Contest 12:00 UTC 2 November to 12:00 UTC 3 November

Himalayan Contest, 12:00 UTC 2 November to 12:00 UTC 3 November

ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW 21:00 UTC 2 November to 03:00 UTC 4 November

NA Collegiate ARC Championship, CW 21:00 UTC 2 November to 03:00 UTC 4 November

IPARC Contest, SSB 06:00 - 10:00 UTC 3 November 14:00 - 18:00 UTC 3 November

High Speed Club CW Contest 09:00 - 11:00 UTC 3 November 15:00 - 17:00 UTC 3 November

DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest 11:00 - 17:00 UTC 3 November

ARS Spartan Sprint 02:00 - 04:00 UTC 5 November

History This Week for the week starting 21 October

1861 - First US transcontinental telegram sent, ending the Pony Express

1879 - Thomas Edison perfects the carbonised cotton filament light bulb

1906 - Dr Lee DeForest demonstrates his radio tube

1915 - First transatlantic radiotelephone message, Arlington, Virginia, to Paris

1925 - Water skis patented by Fred Waller

1956 - First video recording on magnetic tape televised coast-to-coast

1960 - First electronic wrist watch placed on sale, NYC

1966 - First Pacific communications satellite launched, Intelsat 2

HF Happenings

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SARL National Field Day 16 and 17 November 2013



Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newline, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News and Southgate ARC News